

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02715 191059Z

43

ACTION AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8675

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AFDROUGHT

JOINT STATE/AID

E O 11652: NA

SUBJ: U.S. ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

1. ORIGINALLY, CHARGE AND CDO HAD SET MEETING FOR 18 OCTOBER WITH MINPLAN LAMANA TO DISCUSS BOL POLDER ACTIVITIES AND PLANNED ARRIVAL OF META/AID TEAM. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, MEETING PURPOSE WAS CHANGED TO FOCUS ON GOC REACTION TO KAMM ARTICLE AND FUTURE RAMIFICATIONS THEREOF TO USAID PROGRAMS. LAMANA PRESENTED SUCH LOW-KEYED AND OBLIQUE RESPONSE AND SKIRTED WHOLE ISSUE SO POINTEDLY THAT SEVERAL MINUTES OF DISCUSSIONS ENSUED BEFORE DIALOGUE EFFECTIVELY DEALT WITH MATTER AT HAND. FINALLY IN RESPONSE TO THE POINTED QUESTION CONCERNING JUST WHAT AMERICAN ASSISTANCE, ACCORDING TO HIS UNDERSTANDING, DID GOC INTEND PRECISELY TO CONTINUE OR TO REJECT, LAMANA INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT IN POSITION TO COMMENT ON FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM INASMUCH AS THAT WAS RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTER DJONOUMA AND ANY DECISION CONCERNING THAT PROGRAM RESTED WITH DJONOUMA AND PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE. ON OTHER HAND, THE WHOLE BROUHAHA OVER THE KAMM ARTICLE, IN HIS OPINION, HAD NOTHING TO DO WHATSOEVER WITH GOC/USG COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES (SIC), AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO AMIABLE COLLABORATION IN SUCH UNDERTAKINGS ALONG LINES OF HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH AID/AFR ADAMS.

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PAGE 02 NDJAME 02715 191059Z

2. LAMANA EMPHASIZED THAT GIVEN ITS LOW LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT AND IMMENSITY OF ITS NEEDS, CHAD REQUIRES MASSIVE INPUTS AND CONCENTRATED EFFORTS TO MAKE APPRECIABLE PROGRESS; HE OBSERVED THAT WHILE APPRECIATED, USAID EFFORTS IN THE PAST WERE CHARACTERIZED BY DISPARATE SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS THAT OVER A DECADE REALLY DID NOT ADD UP TO MEANINGFUL RESULTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT IMMENSE EFFORT WAS REQUIRED IN THE FIELDS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE. SPECIFIC PRIORITY ITEMS INCLUDED: POLDER DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES (HIS COMMENTS THEREON INCLUDED IN SEPTEL ON THAT SUBJECT); COMPREHENSIVE STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTI-DONOR INTEGRATED LIVESTOCK PROGRAM; AND MULTI-DONOR CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SPECIFIC ROADS, I.E., LAI-BONGOR ROAD FOR INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION FROM NEW INTENSIVE RICE PRODUCTION AREA AND MOUNDOU-GUIDJIBA (CAMEROON) ROAD FOR EXPORT OF COTTON TO CAMEROONIAN RAILHEAD.

3. CDO RESPONDED THAT WITH RESPECT TO CHAD, AID PLANNING TO DATE HAS GIVEN EMPHASIS TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (SPECIFICALLY POLDER DEVELOPMENT) AND RANGE MANAGEMENT ASPECTS OF LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT. IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION CONCERNING GOC INTEREST IN CONTINUED GOC/USG COLLABORATION IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AND OTHERS THAT MIGHT BE JOINTLY IDENTIFIED BY DAP PLANNING TEAM, LAMANA SAW NO REASON WHY PLANNING IN THAT DIRECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE. RE CONTINUATION OF R&R ACTIVITIES: LAMANA DESIRED ALL THOSE UNDER HIS CONTROL TO CONTINUE; THOSE CONCERNING FOOD DISTRIBUTION, AND THUS UNDER DJONOUA'S CONTROL, WERE SUBJECT, HE SAID, TO DECISION OF THE LATTER AND PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE.

4. COMMENT: APPARENTLY GOC UPSET IS PRESENTLY LIMITED TO FFP DISTRIBUTION AND GOC HAS NO INTENSION WIDEN RIFE TO INCLUDE OTHER AID PROGRAMS OR RELATIONS WITH USG IN GENERAL.
DWYER

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